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N. E. FARMER.

PREMIUM FARMS.

[Continued.]

Ephraim Abbot's Statement.

To the Trustees of the Mass. Agricultural Society:

The subscriber makes the following answers to the inquiries respecting farms, published in the N. E. Farmer, vol. xx. page 273.

Ans. 1. My farm consists of 114 acres, of which 73 are pasturage, mowing and tillage; the rest is wood land.

2. My soil is principally gravelly loam, the remainder peat meadow.

3. My upland abounds in stones, which make deep plowing difficult. Where I can, I plow from 5 to 8 or 9 inches deep. I have plowed but about two acres of peat soil; one and a quarter acre of which I had several years before covered with earth about three inches deep, upon a massy and wild cranberry bottom. This I plowed 8 or 9 inches deep, for the purpose of getting earth enough below the roots and moss to cultivate. The next year's plowing was not more than three or four inches deep, that the sod and moss might not be disturbed. The rest was plowed 6 or 7 inches deep.

4. I have no plain land, or such as may be called thin soiled, except a few gravelly knolls. I have found great benefit from plowing land deep, that had been worn by excessive cropping. Land that produced potatoes or beans scarcely sufficient to pay for harvesting, I plowed twice in a furrow, and to the depth of nearly or quite a foot. It afterwards produced heavier crops of beans, wheat and grass, than any other land I have. It suffered much from drought before the deep plowing, and very little since.

5. My land, before I purchased it, had been for many years the dower of a widow, and afterwards was the inheritance of a minor; and all which had been plowed or mowed, was very much exhausted, and the pasture covered with bushes. My homestead consists of about 36 acres—11 acres are woodland—of the remainder, 9 acres were in grass, the rest in pasturage, when it came into my possession. I hired it for three years, before I purchased it, in which time I broke up two acres of the grass land. That which was not broken up, I mowed; two acres of which were in Indian hills, and yielded more hay in proportion than the other parts. But I did not obtain in either of the three years more than two tons and a half of hay, and a half ton of this was meadow hay and bushes.

My method for improvement is deep plowing and dressing with compost, made of peat mud with lime, ashes, and barn manure. My circumstances did not permit me to purchase stable manure, excepting a very little. My peat meadows I have improved by ditching, sub-draining, and covering with earth and manure from my hog-yards.

6. I till about 6 1-2 acres: put about 30 loads of compost to the acre on land that I plant: have put none on grain crops on plowed land.

7. My manure is applied in compost.

8. I spread and harrow twice, and in different directions, to mix the dressing well with the earth, after which I sometimes roll and sometimes plow in.

9. I plow green-sward from 6 to 8 inches deep, where the stones will permit; generally in the autumn; and roll across the furrows, after drawing off the stones. In the spring, I harrow twice with a heavy harrow; then spread and harrow, &c. as stated in answer to question 8th. When I roll after harrowing in the dressing, I plant with a seed-sower. If I plow in after harrowing on green-sward, I endeavor to plow so shallow as not to disturb the sod. I have sometimes, after harrowing in the dressing, turned two furrows towards each other and planted between them. The furrows were not turned sufficiently near to form a ridge. Ground thus prepared, I prefer planting with a seed-sower. The largest crops I have ever raised were planted in this way.

10. Have 11 1-2 acres of upland mowing, yielding about 1 2-5 ton to the acre. Three or four acres need new seeding, and I should have plowed it before this time, if I had not needed my manure to improve the pasture land that I am endeavoring to reclaim.

11. No land irrigated.

12. Put about 15 loads of manure from my hog-yard, to an acre of peat meadow. Have dressed about 3 3-4 acres in this way.

13. Mow about two acres of lowland, consisting of narrow runs and peat meadow, which might be made English mowing and arable land, at an expense of about 100 dollars per acre. The grass cut on the runs is more than half English. I have not weighed my hay; but estimating 600 cubic feet of white grass, and 700 feet of mixed clover, herds-grass and redtop, per ton, I have 16 tons of upland, and 6 1-2 tons of peat meadow hay, which is nearly all clover, herdsgrass and redtop, and 1 1-2 ton of run and fresh meadow hay, and more than two tons of second crop; making in all about 26 tons.

14. I have reclaimed about 3 3-4 acres of peat meadow. In the autumn of 1831, soon after I purchased my homestead, I commenced on 1 1-4 acre, covered principally with long moss and wild cranberry (by some called heath.) I first dug a ditch through the centre, about 3 feet wide and from 3 to 4 feet deep, which was deeper than the peat, and extended into the sand beneath. After the meadow had become sufficiently consolidated, the wild cranberry was mowed, and the mud drawn to my barn-yard and hog-yards. The sand was spread on the meadow, and the whole piece covered with earth about three inches deep. The earth used was taken from the side of a field by the road, where it was necessary to build a bank wall. In the spring of 1832, I put compost dressing on about three-quarters of the piece, and sowed the whole with grass-seed, herdsgrass and redtop and oats. The oats and grass that grew, made about a ton of good fodder. For several succeeding years it yielded never less than two tons of good hay. The part not manured, did not yield so large a burden as the other part. Three years after, this part was manured; and afterwards it yielded a large burden.

In the fall of 1839, I deepened and widened the main ditch, and by making a sub-drain about 15 rods, and bogging a bushy and braky piece adjoining, increased the meadow to about 1 1-2 acre, and plowed the whole. In the spring of 1840, I planted it with potatoes. Owing to unfavorable circumstances, the potato crop was small. In 1841, I sowed the old part with oats and the new with wheat. Both kinds of grain yielded well; but I have not data from which I can state the amount. With the wheat and oats I sowed herdsgrass, redtop and some clover, and this year the crop was more than two tons to the acre, of entirely English hay.

In the spring of 1841, I commenced the reclaiming of a piece of peat meadow, lying in the corner of a pasture. About an acre of the central part of the meadow was nearly free from stones, bushes, and brakes. I surrounded the smooth part with a ditch four feet wide. The peat was from 2 1-2 to 4 feet deep. This was removed for manure. Then sand was taken from the bottom in some places to six feet below the surface, and with what was taken from one corner (less than a square rod,) and some ditches, running from the border, and from some sub-drains, afterwards made, was sufficient to cover 2 1-4 acres nearly 2 inches deep. This sand, Dr. S. L. Dana, of Lowell, was good enough to analyze for me. He found that which had most of a clayish appearance, to contain 3 per cent. of geine and 2 per cent. of sulphate of lime, and that which appeared to be mere white quick sand, to contain 1-2 per cent. of sulphate of lime, 10 per cent of silicate of potash, (1-3 potash,) and one per cent. of geine. I think it was much less expensive covering the meadow with this sand, than it would have been with any other earth that I could have obtained. Besides, I believe the sand was better than earth taken from a bank or hill would have been.

The subduing of the borders without the ditch, and preparing them to receive the sand, was many times more expensive than applying the sand. They were so rough with stones, and also so wet, that they could not be plowed, and abounded so much with brakes and bushes, that it was necessary to dig a great part of them with hoes, and to dig out great quantities of stones, and to fill the holes with sods and earth, and make open ditches and sub-drains, before the sand could be applied.

Besides open ditches, I made more than 40 rods of sub-drains. These were made by digging ditches about two feet wide, and from three to four feet deep. The water courses were laid with stones as large or larger than a man's head, and covered with flat stones, dug from the meadow. These were covered with meadow hay, then with sods, then with mud, and then with earth taken from the bottom of the ditch. The earth and mud are so deep that a plow can never injure the drains by moving either sods or stones. Ten or twelve rods, howev-

er are covered by a double wall, built for the purpose of disposing of stones, which would otherwise have been a nuisance, not being needed for the wall, that encloses two sides of the meadow, the sub-drains and three stone bridges.

I did not keep an exact account of the compost put on the part first sown; but I think it was about 15 loads to the acre. On the 23d of June, the part included by the main ditch and a small part of the border, were sown with herdsgrass, redtop, and clover and oats. On September 4th, I secured a ton of good fodder. After haying, I prepared about a third of an acre more of the border, and sowed it, I think, in September, with herdsgrass and redtop; but no clover. After this, I prepared and covered with sand and manure, another acre of the border. The rest of the field enclosed, being most of it neither upland nor meadow, but between both, had in it a large share of the sub-drains. A part of this was dug up with hoes, and a part plowed and planted with potatoes last year, and all prepared to be plowed this year.

On the 15th of April, this year, the meadow, sanded and manured last fall, was sown with oats, 4 bushels and about 1-2 bushel of herdsgrass, and a bushel of redtop, and a little clover, and the ground well harrowed and rolled. The oats were cradled and threshed, and yielded 12 3-4 bushels. The grass seed came up well, and when I cut my second crop, I mowed about a ton, resembling second crop on this piece. On the parts sown last year, I cut more than two tons to the acre at the first mowing, and more than one at the second.

The remaining parts of the border were plowed last spring from 7 to 9 inches deep, harrowed, and as much as 30 loads of compost spread on them, and then harrowed well, and two and three light furrows alternately turned together, and a furrow made on these, in which potatoes and corn were planted. About a fifth part was planted with corn in alternate rows with potatoes. The crops are as follows: Corn, between 7 and 8 bushels; ruta baga, planted with the corn, 22 bushels; potatoes, 97 1-2 bushels; beets, 3 bushels, and hay as estimated, by weighing several cocks in the field, 2 tons and 17 1-2 hundred, and more than two tons at the second mowing, and 12 3-4 bushels of oats, before mentioned.

Before I commenced the improvement of this land, the whole produce was of very little value, being in a great part brakes and bushes: when the whole is laid down to grass, the produce will probably be not less than two tons of good hay to the acre. The whole labor bestowed upon the land, including the building of the wall, reckoning the labor at what I paid, and adding a quarter of a dollar a day for board, amounts to $414 96, and the amount of crops secured is $131 63, reckoning nothing for mud, used for manure on my homestead. The land is now so thoroughly drained, and the stones so generally taken out that the whole may be plowed, or may be kept in a productive state by top-dressing.

15. Including what was planted at the meadow as stated above, I had about 2 1-2 acres of corn. The principal part on ground that was a rough pasture, partly subdued last year. The field consists of about 3 1-2 acres, including a small run in grass. I commenced digging stones on it in the autumn of 1840, and in the spring of 1841, nearly completed a double wall on one side with the stones taken from the piece. Having plowed and harrowed it, I put on 230 loads of compost, spread it where the ground was sufficiently smooth, and harrowed it in. Where the ground was very rough, it was put in the holes. But owing to the severe drought, and the previously impoverished state of most of the land, the crop was very small. This year, the ground was plowed across the furrows of last year, 7 or 8 inches deep, where the stones would permit. It was then harrowed, the stones were drawn off, and 97 loads of compost spread upon it, and again harrowed and planted, as is stated concerning the meadow in answer to question 14. Part of the corn was planted in alternate rows with potatoes or beans. The crop was 74 bushels of corn, 102 bushels of potatoes, and 6 3-4 bushels of beans.

The compost used was in part prepared as follows: 22 loads of mud, dug the preceding spring, and laid in a pile during the summer, were carted near the field in the winter. On April 5th, when the frost was out about 6 inches deep in the pile, the part thawed was shoveled off, and a cask of unslacked lime spread on the frozen part and covered with the mud shoveled off. On the 18th, 5 or 6 loads of dung from the barn-cellar, were added to the heap and overhauled with it. It then lay nearly a month, when it was spread. The rest of the compost was prepared by mixing together the mud taken from the barn-yard and hog-yard, and manure from the barn cellar and necessary. These ingredients were overhauled together, and lay till they began to ferment, and then they were spread.

I planted principally the Parker corn; but some of the Phinney corn. All was prepared by being soaked in a pickle made by dissolving saltpetre in water, in the proportion of little more than two oz. to a gallon. After the corn had been soaked 24 hours or more, it was taken from the pickle, and plaster put with it—as much as would adhere to it. The corn was cut up near the ground as soon as it began to grow hard, and six hills bound together, and five bundles set up, by placing one upright and the others bracing against it on four sides, so as to let the air circulate as freely as possible between them. The tops were bent over and bound together.

16. Had about 1 1-2 acre of potatoes. Part were planted on the border of a meadow, and part in alternate rows with corn—and all cultivated in the same manner. The rows were about 3 feet 9 inches apart, and the hills 2 1-2 feet. The corn was seeded four or five corns in a hill, and the potatoes two whole ones in a hill. Before the first hoeing, the earth was turned from the rows by a horse-plow, and before the second, it was turned towards them. Afterwards, some weeds were cut up with the hoe, and some pulled up by hand. I should have used the cultivator before the second hoeing, but I feared from its effects the preceding year, it would injure the corn by breaking too many of its roots. By using the plow, I made some ridge, but the hills were small.

17. About one acre of other vegetables. One fourth of an acre with carrots and beets, and three-fourths of an acre with beans, peas, turnips, cabbages, squashes, and vegetables for family use. The carrots yielded 87 bushels, the beets 18, the turnips 33, the ruta baga 30, the onions 4: parsnips not dug—probably 3 or 4 bushels; beans 8 bushels; and my potatoes in all 234 bushels. I expect to feed the roots, not used in my family, to my stock.

18. Besides the oats before mentioned, I sowed only 1 1-4 acre with Black Sea wheat. The wheat, 2 1-2 bushels, was soaked in strong salt brine for several days, and as much lime was mixed with it as would adhere to it when wet. The soil was in part gravelly loam, and part bordering on a peat meadow, was peaty. Last year, corn was planted on the ground, and about 30 loads of compost applied to the acre. Early in the spring, the hills were split and the ground harrowed, and then plowed 5 or 6 inches deep. It was then harrowed and sown with the wheat and grass seed, and then harrowed in. The stones that had not been before removed, were then picked and drawn off, and on the 12th of April the ground was rolled. The crop was much injured by weeds on the peaty part, though the cultivator had been used three times between the corn the preceding year, the corn hoed twice, and afterwards the weeds pulled up or cut up with the hoe. The grain was cradled July 30, and the crop a little more than 11 bushels.

19. Besides the acre of peat meadow before mentioned, I have sown with grass only the 1 1-4 acre of wheat ground. On this I sowed herdsgrass 11 quarts, redtop 1 bush., and clover seed 8 1-2 lbs. The seed came up well, and promises a good crop of hay next year.

20. I cover my barn-yard twice a year, and my barn cellar once, with peat mud, and my hog-yards twice with earth or mud; I also cut some brakes and weeds and put them green into my yards. I mow the weeds and bushes in my pastures, and dry them and lay them up in my barn for litter for my horse and hogs. I use a ton or two of plaster yearly, and few casks of lime.

21. I keep one yoke of oxen, one horse, and four cows, and have one pair of yearling steers, a yearling heifer and a heifer calf. My cows and oxen are of native breed; my young cattle partly of the Durham breed. I have one cosset sheep and her lamb, part Merino. The old part of my barn is 42 feet long, 28 feet wide, 14 feet posts. In this I have made a cellar sufficiently large to contain 1000 bushels of roots, secure from frost. The part of the barn which I have built, is of the same width as the old part, 40 feet in length, and the height of the posts 16 feet. In the lower part of this I keep my wagons, carts, sleds, roller, plows, harrows, &c. I have a cellar under the part of the barn where my cattle are tied, and the manure is dropped into it. I have also two barn sheds, one 20 feet by 10, and the other 36 feet by 16, and chambers over both. I have a corn-house 15 feet by 12 1-2, and a hog-house 37 feet by 15, with a room 10 feet square, having a boiler set in it for cooking vegetables.

22. Answered in the preceding.

23. I sometimes take the calves from the cows when two or three days old, and learn them to drink milk and milk porridge, and sometimes let them suck till they are 12 weeks old, and learn all to eat meal or roots. I think the calves are more healthy when allowed to suck.

24. I keep boarders, and spend most of the milk for family uses. Part of my cows calve in the spring, and part at other seasons. We make no cheese, but make a little butter at most seasons of the year—seldom more than 8 or 10 pounds per week. I have no data by which I can state the exact amount.

25. See answer to question 21st.

26. Have one hog, three-quarters Berkshire and part Mackey, and one sow, half Berkshire and half Norfolk grass breed from an imported mother; three pigs, two offsprings of the above, and one

from the first described, and a thrifty large mother, breed unknown. The last a boar, procured to prevent breeding in-and-in. Last fall, I killed three hogs, weighing together 1028 lbs., since which I have sold two shoats for $11, and nine pigs for $18 50. The hogs I now have will probably weigh 400 lbs. apiece when dressed.

27. I feed them with slops, weeds, some potatoes, and some meal. After apples begin to drop, I give them as many raw as they will eat, and some refuse peaches. When potatoes are fit to use, I boil them sometimes alone, and sometimes with apples or pumpkins, and at first put a peck of meal into a kettle containing 45 gallons, and increase the proportion, as they need richer food. I give them charcoal occasionally, and put salt into every kettle of dough.

28. Have about 60 loads of hog manure. My horse stable manure is thrown into the hog yard. The other materials are as stated in answer to question 26. The drain from my sink runs into the hog yard, and the manure from the necessary is mixed with it when it is taken out in the spring and fall.

29. I hire one man by the year, for $140; and one by the day, he making fair weather, when I wish it. I pay him 3 shillings per day, except in in July and August, when I pay him 4 shillings. I have also a boy nine years old, and I hired a few days work at planting, a few at haying, and a few at mowing bushes. In all perhaps 20 or 25 days.

I use between 40 and 50 cords of wood a year in my family, and in the winter my men are employed in cutting and hauling it, and in preparing it for the fire, and in drawing mud. The wood is drawn generally from two to four miles, and the mud 1 1-4.

Before last year, I had no tillage or grass land, except peat meadow, which was not on my homestead, and on this not more than ten acres, that was not wood land, or very rough pasture. These with all the improvement I could make upon them, would not yield near the hay and other produce I needed. For several years, I paid more than $100 annually for hay. This was an expense I could not well afford; and I concluded instead of purchasing more land, to convert some of my rough pasture into field land. In the years 1839, '40 and '41, I employed much more help than I do at present. In the spring of 1839, I began to subdue a piece of bushy pasture land, so full of stones that my neighbors told me I should never be able to plow it. It lay contiguous to my barn, garden and orchard, and contained 4 1-2 acres. During the months of April, May and June, I employed from 6 to 10 men, and 4 or 6 oxen, in digging stones, hauling them, and laying them in walls, and preparing the ground for planting. Before an attempt was made to plow, all the stones that appeared above ground, and could be raised with bars and levers, were dug and laid in walls. On one side, a wall was built about 5 feet wide and 5 feet high; and the walls on the other sides doubled in most parts. After every plowing and harrowing since, the stones that could be removed, were laid in the walls. Two acres were planted with corn on the 29th of May. On these were put 60 loads of compost. The crop was 72 bushels. On the 29th of June the remainder was planted. One acre with ruta baga received 20 loads of compost, and the crop was 251 bushels. The remainder, 1 1-2 acre, was planted with potatoes. This received only 20 loads of manure, and the ground being very rough, the dressing was mostly put in the hills. The crop was 167 bushels. The next year, 1840, one acre was planted with ruta baga, beets and carrots. The remaining 3 1-2 acres were planted with corn, except the outside rows. The whole received 200 loads of compost. The ruta bagas were planted about as soon as the corn, which was too early, and the crop was much less, in proportion to the ground occupied, than those of the small parts planted with beets and carrots. The ruta baga yielded 215 bushels, the beets 28, the carrots 29, the potatoes 13, and the corn 140 bushels, which was 40 bushels to the acre. In addition, on the corn ground were raised 2 cartloads of pumpkins and 1 1-2 bushel of beans; and on the ruta baga acre, squashes, melons, cucumbers, and other things worth $7. In 1841, the field was sown with wheat and barley, and grass seed. The wheat and barley good crops, free from blight; but being threshed at different times, I have not been able to ascertain the amount of them. The crop of hay this year was about two tons to the acre. I think rather more two tons than less.

Besides open ditches of more than 100 rods in length, I have made 56 rods of subdrains, 177 rods of single wall, 4 1-2 feet high, 256 rods of double wall, from 3 to 8 feet wide, and from 3 1-2 to 5 feet high. The pieces of land reclaimed amount in all to 12 1-2 acres.

30. My grafted apple trees are most of them young or old trees, which do not bear much fruit. I have 101 apple trees fully grafted, and 51 not grafted, or grafted only in part. I give most of my apples which are not fit for market or family use, to my hogs and cattle. I commonly make a small pressing of cider for apple sauce, and for vinegar. I have apple trees in my pastures, not enumerated above, which bear apples enough in some years, for 12 or 15 barrels of cider.

31. I have 24 grafted or budded cherry trees, and 37 mazzards, and several Kentish cherry trees, 16 budded peach trees, and 29 not budded; 8 grafted pear trees, 5 only in bearing; 8 small plum trees, 4 only bear.

32. Before I purchased my farm, the old apple trees had been nearly killed by canker-worms, and my neighbors advised me to cut them down; but by using tar for several years, the worms have disappeared. Many of the trees that were the least promising, I have headed down and grafted, and they promise to bear fruit. I have suffered very little, if any, from borers.

33. I do not allow the use of ardent spirit or cider as a drink on my farm.

Respectfully submitted,

EPHRAIM ABBOT.

Edson Sexton's Statement.

Ans. 1. Eighty acres in the farm.

2. Soil, a mixture of sand and clay.

3. I have not had experience in all the varieties of soil on my farm. I plow from 5 to 7 inches.

4. I have found that where a loam consists of sand and gravel, and has been plowed shallow for years, that deep plowing has a good effect.

5. On some parts of my farm, plaster is the cheapest manure. But the most effectual way is to use barn-yard manure with plaster.

6. I usually plow about six acres of green-sward, and use about 16 loads of manure to the acre.

7. Usually apply my manure in its green state.

8. I sometimes spread and plow in, and sometimes harrow in.

9. My common practice has been to plow in the spring and plant with corn or potatoes.

10. I mow usually about 30 acres. The average yield about 1 1-2 or 1 3-4 ton per acre.

11. Not any land irrigated.

12. I sometimes use a light dressing on some parts of my meadow, say five or six loads per acre applied in spring.

13. Not any low lands.

14. I have not had any experience in either bog or peat lands.

15. Three acres of corn. A part of the ground was plowed last fall, and part just before planting. I plow in the best possible manner, and harrow from six to eight times in a place, with a thorough-going harrow. I then furrow it both ways to manure in the hill. If I plant without manuring in the hill, I make a slight mark with a chain or something prepared for the purpose. My seed I put into the ground dry. For two or three years I have practiced giving my land a light dressing with common manure and harrowing it in, and then putting the manure made in my hog-yard into the hill. The quantity of corn is from 65 to 80 bushels per acre. The committee of the Berkshire Agricultural Society, appointed to view crops, have estimated my corn, two years back, at 100 bushels per acre.

16. Four acres of potatoes. I prepare my ground much as I do for corn, with the exception of manuring in the hill, which I seldom do. For three years past, I have scarcely planted a potato with a hoe. I have made my green-sward so mellow that I could plant my potatoes with one-fourth the expense with my plow. The average yield this year, about 200 bushels per acre: two years past, from 300 to 400 bushels per acre. The varieties are Mercers, flesh-color, Rohans and Kidneys.

17. One and a half acre of other vegetables: three-fourths of an acre of carrots; the rest round turnips: the carrots yielded at the rate of 838 bu. per acre—the turnips 500 bu. per acre. I shall feed them to my stock.

18. Sowed eight acres of grain—oats: four acres about the first of May, and four about the 20th. It was plowed twice and harrowed thoroughly, say from four to six times in a place. I take more pains in plowing and harrowing, than most farmers in this section. Quantity of seed sown, about three bushels per acre.

19. Eight acres laid down to grass. Four acres the first of May—the other four about the 20th. I use about eight quarts seed per acre—two quarts of clover and six of herdsgrass, sowed alone.

20. Means of making manure rather limited. I say limited, because my materials are not easy of access. My practice is to go into the low grounds and bring muck into my hog and cow-yards, sometimes rich earth from the highways, and frequently go into the forests and gather leaves, which I consider a good ingredient in making manure. I have bought many loads of manure from the livery stable, which is profitable for me.

21. Stock, usually one yoke of oxen, from four to six cows, about six young cattle, one pair of horses, and from 65 to 90 sheep. My barn is 32 feet wide and 42 feet long, with two sheds, 30 feet long each, and 18 feet wide. I have no regular-built cellar under my barn, but it stands four feet from the ground, and I frequently put roots under the floor, and can keep them until the first of Jan-

uary. My manure is part of it kept under cover, and part exposed to the weather.

22. None of my stock is of the entire native breed—all crossed with the Durham.

23. My common practice with calves is to take them from the cow soon after the milk gets good, and feed them with new milk about six weeks, then with skimmed milk about as much longer, with a little provender.

24. I should think my cows would make 250 lbs. of butter each, and 50 lbs. new milk cheese.

25. My flock of sheep varies from 65 to 90. The breed is a cross of the Merino and Saxony: they cut this year nearly four pounds per head: they have for two or three years back, cut from 3 1-4 to 3 1-2 lbs. each. I let my sheep run in the open air through the winter, except in severe storms. I endeavor to have my lambs come about the first of May, at which time they require but little attention, except in case of storm. Perhaps one in ten dies. Causes, getting caught in storms unexpectedly; ewes not owning them; and they often die without my being able to give any reason for it.

26. I usually fatten from five to eight swine, and keep about the same number through the winter. I make from 20 to 30 cwt. of pork. Swine are a cross of the Berkshire and Moco.

27. I feed them on potatoes boiled and the slop of the kitchen, and fatten on boiled roots mixed with provender or corn meal, until within about four weeks of killing, when I feed them mostly on corn.

28. Have from 30 to 40 loads of hog manure, made of leaves, muck and all refuse stuff suitable, with the straw of their beds.

29. I have usually carried the farm on with the help of two boys from 10 to 14 years old. Wages in this place are from 10 to 16 dollars per month.

30. Have 140 apple trees: all the trunks are natural fruit except 15; although I have grafted many with our best fruit. The best of them I put into my cellar, or sell them; the rest I feed to my hogs and cattle.

31. I have 18 bearing cherry trees, five bearing plum trees, two pear trees, and five bearing quince trees; also, six young cherry trees, twenty plum trees, three pear trees, and about forty peach trees, that do not bear; I have also a nursery of about 2000 young apple trees.

32. My trees have not been attacked by the canker worm or borer.

33. I do not use ardent spirits.

EDSON SEXTON.

Stockbridge, Oct. 25, 1842.

Recipe for Erysipelas.—Mr Aaron Sargeant, of N. Y. city, on hearing of the prevalence of the erysipelas in Vermont, sent the following recipe to the Postmaster of Montpelier:

Dear Sir—The cause of humanity induces me to write to you, that you may make public without delay, the following recipe for the Erysipelas, which I am sorry to see is prevailing to an alarming extent in Vermont:

Recipe.—1 pint French brandy, 5 oz. common table salt—put in a bottle, and let it stand for 24 hours. Let the patient take two table-spoonsful three times a day, in a tea-cup of lukewarm water. He may sweeten it to make it palateable, if he chooses. Rub the parts affected with the liquid. The recipe is from Mr Gardner, a gentleman of undoubted veracity. The medicine is harmless, and a sure cure.

THE MASSACHUSETTS SPY.

If our readers will turn to the New England Farmer, of Dec. 7, they will there find an article copied from the Massachusetts Spy, which describes an orchard in the vicinity of Boston, as *wonderfully* profitable. A correspondent in our next paper, criticised that article, and considered it a fit specimen by which to show that many published articles give false accounts of crops and profits. The editor of the Spy, in his paper of Dec. 28, noticed the strictures, and leads us to infer that he believes in, and is disposed to maintain the truth of his statements. For reasons which the editor of that paper understands, and which need not be more publicly told, we have had no opportunity until now, to copy his rejoinder.

As to the facts in regard to the profits of the particular orchard, *we* know nothing. Upon the general subject of "lying about crops and profits," we hold the same opinion as before, viz: that it is often done; that it misleads many; and that it ought to be rebuked. But whether the Spy was guilty in the case in question, we have no means of learning, for we know not whose the orchard is, and cannot make inquiries. Should we learn that the statements were incorrect, we should be much more ready to surmise that the fault was that of the editor's informant than of himself. *We* certainly do not lay any blame now, and never did, to the editor of the Spy. We editors have not power to "send for persons and papers," and put witnesses under oath; and we are often under the necessity of making public many things that are not proved to be true. As an act of justice to the editor of the Spy, we now willingly copy his article.—Ed. N. E. F.

LYING ABOUT CROPS AND PROFITS.

This is the heading of an article in the New England Farmer, of Dec. 14, in which a correspondent of that paper comments on a paragraph taken from an article published in the Spy in April last, which was copied into the papers generally at the time, but which did not find its way into the Farmer till Dec. 7. It was in relation to the apple, and gave the statements of an extensive cultivator in the vicinity of Boston, as communicated by him to us. The writer in the Farmer says, in his own gentlemanly language, the paragraph contained "as many lies as lines." He does not however, attempt to point out more than two or three, and these we will briefly notice, as well as some other points in the article where no charge of lying is made.

The writer admits that there is "no doubt that the person alluded to has the thirty acres of apple trees," and he adds, "just as little doubt that he has spent fifty years in rearing them, and that they are nearly the whole result of the labor of a life." We do not know our informant's age, but he cannot be far from fifty. He cannot, therefore, have spent that time in the rearing of his orchard. The writer in the Farmer proceeds to say, "the fact, however, that the 1500 trees on these 30 acres, now in a 'fine healthy state, and full bearing,' produce *no more* than 800 barrels of apples, shows a want of skill in their selection and management, which I should think he would be slow to brag of." No such "fact" was stated in the Spy, nor any other from which such an *inference* could fairly be drawn. In so representing it, then, is the writer guilty of a "lie"—or by what other name will he call it? He proceeds:

"There was no occasion for 'scouring' the country for trees to make additions to his orchard. Enough might be found within ten miles of Boston, and at reasonable prices too, for his wants, if they were ten times as great as they are."

True, if he had been satisfied with such trees as were to be found within ten miles of Boston; but every one who has had occasion to know any thing about it, knows that such sized trees as are most profitable for setting, to those who desire fruit soon, cannot be obtained in that vicinity, except at extravagant prices, and but very few at any rate. We happen to *know*, that a dealer in trees in Boston, has, for two seasons past ordered considerable numbers from this place, at 50 per cent. above the price at which they might be bought of such size as are to be found in the nurseries about Boston; and the person alluded to in our former article, purchased two lots in this place, for which he paid something like double the price of such trees. Again, he says:

"The assertion that he could have three dollars and a half a barrel for his 800 barrels of apples, is too great a lie to dwell on. Every one who has dealt in the article this year knows that selected Baldwins can hardly be sold for two dollars, at retail, and that the wholesale price has not been, and is not now, above one dollar and a half per barrel."

Very logical! Because in the fall of the most fruitful year that has occurred for a long period, apples may be had for $1 50 or $2 per barrel, therefore, the assertion that fine, sound selected fruit, as was that of our informant, would bring $3 50 per barrel the spring before, "is too great a lie to dwell on."

"If 'the demand for exportation is limited only by the supply,' as the article asserts, why do not the dealers ship off some of the thousands of barrels that are now rotting in our cellars and cannot be sold here?"

This is a question of the writer's own asking, and we have no objection to his answering it to suit himself. This much, however, we *know*, that there is a good market for them near at hand. It is a universal complaint in the cities and towns at the south, that but very few apples are to be obtained, and those of a very inferior quality, and at exorbitant prices. We have, ourselves, bought apples in this place to supply an order from Philadelphia, and sent them on by way of Boston. The obvious intent of the writer is, to have the inference drawn that the supply already exceeds the demand. On this point we will bring himself as a witness. He says, a little further on, that the apple "is one of the best, if not the *very best*, crop that *can* be raised between the Kennebec and the Hudson, and when its cultivation is better understood, the barren-looking hills in many parts of that great region, will be covered with the trees." We should like to know how this is to be brought about, if the supply is already equal to the demand.

The writer admits that one merchant in Boston has shipped 500 barrels to Calcutta annually for a few years past, with *various* and not *uniform* success, and that such as he ships (selected fruit,) cost him, this year, $2 25 per barrel. That is precisely what we stated was offered for such last year, when they were much less plenty than this year. But he says—

"It is *notoriously* untrue that shipments to England, the West Indies, S. America, and the Medi-

terranean, give equally good returns. Shipments to nearly all those places have been uniformly disastrous. Unless shipped with ice, every body who knows any thing about the matter, knows that they cannot be sent a 60 days' voyage with any chance of success."

This does not conflict with the statement of our informant, or with any thing in our article. We did not pretend to say that shipments to any of these places were attended with success, unless the necessary precautions were taken to preserve the fruit. We did not suppose that rotten apples would sell there any better than here; and the fact that shipments have been made to these places, and when properly made, with similar success with those made to Calcutta, still stands uncontradicted.

Having thus disposed of this article—one which, coming from an anonymous writer, we should not have deemed it necessary to answer, had it not had a leading position in so respectable a paper as the New England Farmer, and been endorsed by its editor—and having, as we believe, fully vindicated the character of our informant for veracity, it may, perhaps, be an act of supererogation to say, that we consider the Editor of the Farmer bound, in fairness, to give this article a place in his columns.—*Worcester Spy.*

EFFECTS OF PLASTER.

Dr. R. Harrison reports to the Prince George County (Va.) Agricultural Society, that he has uniformly found the most decided beneficial effects from the use of plaster on his farm, which he finds difficult to reconcile with the discordant and contrary opinions entertained and expressed by others on their respective farms, but this explanation may be sought in difference of soil. In March, he selected two pieces of land contiguous, believed to possess equal fertility; the one part was dressed with plaster (sulphate of lime,) in the proportion of one bushel per acre; the other had no application of any kind. The soil was a loam, adapted to the production of both wheat and corn. The quantity of land selected for experiment, contained in each piece, 784 square yards. There was soon evinced a rapid improvement in the appearance and luxuriance of the clover, which continued to progress until it was fully grown. At this time, the clover on each piece was neatly cut, suffered to wilt by exposure to the sun, then put up in cocks: the succeeding day the hay was opened to dry; the quantity on each piece was separately and accurately weighed, and subsequently housed, with the following result: that portion which had a dressing of plaster, weighed 747 pounds; the portion without plaster weighed only 428 pounds.

Thus it appears, that by an outlay of about 50 cents per acre, an additional increased product was realized of almost two thousand pounds of clover hay, besides an additional increased quantity of vegetable matter, in the roots left for decay. This is not a solitary instance of its value, (says the experimenter,) but it is corroborated by additional testimony in our vicinity. Its virtues are not confined to the clover crop, but peas, potatoes and corn, are also improved by it.

Mr Wm. B. Harrison reports that late in March he applied plaster to clover on a low sandy loam, sometimes omitting to plaster one bed, and occasionally two; and in no stage of its growth could he discover any difference between the plastered and unplastered parts. On a higher and drier field, where plaster was sown, a bed was left unplastered—and here the difference was most striking, being observable several hundred yards off, from the yellow appearance and great inferiority of the clover to that on the plastered beds. These facts (says Mr H.) would seem to favor the opinion, often expressed, and as often controverted, that plaster acts mainly by attracting moisture.

Mr Peebles reports, that on the 1st of April he plastered, at the rate of three pecks to the acre, half of an eight-acre lot of clover—the soil on a part stiff and inclined to clay—the other part, light and gravelly. The effect produced by the plaster in a short time began to show itself, by the clover assuming a much richer color, whilst the unplastered clover remained of a sickly appearance. The 1 t of June, the growth was fine on the whole of the plastered clover, and very heavy on the light portion of the lands, whilst on the land not plastered, the growth was not more than half as heavy, and was much sooner parched up by the heat of the sun. 1st of August, plastered two 20-feet beds across a field of young clover, which had no effect that he could perceive.

Middle of June, fallowed under a heavy growth of rye on four acres of land, (the soil stiff and cold,) and sowed 1 bushel of peas to the acre. Along side, fallowed half an acre of clover under, and sowed a half bushel buckwheat; four weeks after, he sowed plaster at the rate of half a bushel to the acre, leaving several beds not plastered, to see the effect produced, which was none that he could perceive, either on the buckwheat or peas. His main object in this experiment was to destroy or prevent the wild onions seeding among wheat on this land.

August 1st, fallowed a piece of light land, damaged by too heavy an application of marl, and sowed peas. Plastered as soon as they made their appearance above ground. The effect of the plaster was soon perceptible, and quite a luxuriant growth was soon upon the land.

This, with other experiments which he has frequently made with plaster on difference soils, has brought him to believe that plaster, or the benefits resulting from it, is much more perceivable on light soils.

Mr James Cocke reports that, he has made the following experiments:

1st. As soon as he finished sowing oats, he sowed clover seed upon the land, at the rate of three-quarters of a gallon to the acre. And on four acres he followed immediately with ground plaster, at the rate of 1 1-2 bushel to the acre. And he believes there was no benefit to either the oats or clover.

2d. When planting corn, he mixed one bushel of plaster with one bushel of seed corn, and planted thirteen rows through his whole field. The soil of each row was stiff clay, a mixture of clay and sand, and very light sand, at different parts. At no period from the planting to the gathering of the crop, could he perceive any difference between the thirteen rows of plastered corn, and the parts of the field adjoining.—*Farmer's Register.*

The Use of Money.—It is not the plenty of meat that nourishes, but a good digestion; neither is it abundance of wealth that makes happy, but the discreet use of it.

To Stop Bleeding.—J. H. Young, in the Albany Cultivator, says: "A few years ago, a valuable carriage horse of mine, took suddenly ill on a journey. A professed farrier in the village in which I was compelled to stop, advised bleeding in the mouth, which was done accordingly. But unfortunately, after the animal had bled more than a gallon, it was found impossible to stop the blood. We all thought the horse would bleed to death. At this crisis, a farmer happened to pass by, and directed an application of the *fresh excrement of swine.* A small portion of this was immediately held on the wound made by the farrier's instrument, and in two minutes the blood was completely stopped. I have tried this simple though not very pleasant remedy, several times since, in similar cases, and with the same remarkable success."

Sowing Corn for Fodder.—Extract of a letter from Pittsburgh, Pa.: "I last spring sowed one acre of corn, and find it a most excellent feed for milch cows: in fact, I consider it the best feed we can give them, together with pasture. I cut and fed it green: I had two crops on the same ground. From the little experience I have had, I would say the ground requires to be good, and as free from weeds as possible. The first crop, in our section of the country, should be sown as early in the spring as the weather will permit; the second crop not later than the first of July, to insure a full crop, and time to feed green. The second crop will outgrow the weeds."

A letter from M. P., New York, says: "I last year sowed about two acres of corn broadcast. Though I neither measured or weighed the crop, it was so abundant and profitable as green and dry fodder, that I intend doing the same while I have a farm."—*Alb. Cult.*

To Preserve Flowers Fresh.—Procure a flat dish of pocelain, into which put water sufficient to nearly fill it. In the water place a vase of flowers: over the vase place a bell-glass, with its rim in the water. The air that surrounds the flower being confined beneath the bell-glass, is constantly moist with the water that rises into it in the form of vapor. As fast as the water becomes condensed, it runs down the sides of the bell-glass into the dish; and if means be taken to enclose the water on the outside of the bell-glass, so as to prevent its evaporating into the air of the room, the atmosphere around the flowers will remain continually damp, and they be preserved from wilting. The experiment may be tried on a small scale, by inserting a tumbler over a rosebud, in a saucer of water.—*Selected.*

Comets.—A comet is a vast mass of nebulous or purely etherial matter, so light and filmy that nothing on this earth can be compared with it. It was calculated of one, that its whole immense volume, if compressed into a density equal to that of our atmosphere, would not occupy more than a cubic inch! Even the denser part of these bodies—their appparent nucleus—is altogether filmy; for, through the *very heart* of a comet of considerable brightness, stars of the sixteenth magnitude have been descried.—*Nichols' Phenomena of the Solar System.*

Be slow in choosing a friend, and slower to change him.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 1843.

EIGHTH AGRICULTURAL MEETING AT THE STATE HOUSE.

Mr King in the chair.

The thanks of the meeting were unanimously voted to Dr. C. T. Jackson, for his interesting and instructive lectures at the two last meetings.

Henry K. Oliver, Esq. then commenced his lecture upon the Honey Bee. This insect has been much observed, for its domestication brings it within the convenient notice of man. In ancient poetry, and in the Bible, it is frequently noticed. Virgil elaborately described it. He had *kings*, drones and workers. There was an error in the outset: his kings should have been *queens*. The drones are males. Virgil's knowledge of the bee was extensive, but he made many mistakes. And few in subsequent times did any better, until the 17th century.

In a common swarm there is only one queen, though there are several hundred males, and several thousand workers or sterile females. The queen is 3-4 of an inch long—the workers 1-2 an inch—and the drones 2-3 of an inch. The disposition of the queen is ordinarily very gentle—it is difficult to provoke her to sting. She deposites from 12,000 to 80,000 eggs. Lays none from November to February. Her eggs are left in cells, that are varied in size and form, according to the class of bee that is to be hatched. The cells for queen bees are large and long comparatively.

Last season, Mr O. had an opportunity at a friend's house, to watch the operations of the queen through her season of laying. A thin or *single-comb* glass hive was used: there she could be seen distinctly. Her motions over the comb are slow; she looks out for suitable cells for her purpose;—first she inserts her head; if the cell is in order, she having withdrawn the head, deposits an egg. If no cell is suitable, the egg is often dropped outside, and all thus dropped are eaten at once by the working bees. A few of the cells in this glass hive were made with the side next the glass open, and the whole process of hatching and growth in them, could be distinctly seen.

The royal bees are three days in the egg—for six days are worms—on the 10th, 11th, and 12th, they are nymphs, and on the 16th are perfect insects. There are several royal cells in one hive. These cells are left open, and instinct teaches the one that hatches first to go to the other cells and destroy the other embryo queens. As soon as the young queen is perfect, the *old* queen abdicates or leads off a swarm, taking with her many of the old bees and many young ones. It is the *young* queen that remains at home.

If a queen is lost, the appearances are, that the bees can hatch out a new one. To do this, they take three cells containing eggs for working bees—make these cells into one, and enlarge the house as the young queen grows. They feed the young queen thus created, upon a peculiar pungent food.

If there be no brood comb in the hive, this process of making a queen cannot be carried on—in such a case the swarm perishes.

Mr O. has stolen a queen and boxed her up; then he has brushed off and boxed up the clusters of bees that hung on the outside of several hives;—has put these all together and shaken them up well; and then having removed them three-quarters of a mile from home, has left them without a queen for a day. In this state they did not work—but upon putting the stolen queen to them, they soon set to work, and that hive prospered. The hivs from which he had stolen the queen, went on well after a few days.

Upon giving a queen to a queenless hive, they give strong tokens of rejoicing. Their noise seems to be a "God save our new queen." As soon as she is presented, the bees surround her in a circle, with their heads towards her, if she is *fertile*, but not if she is barren.

Whether the queen has a body guard, is not known; but it is certain that when she stops in her progress of moving over the comb and depositing her eggs, that they cluster about her. She is the life of the colony—they do nothing without her.

Only one queen can live in a hive; if two hatch at the same time, there is a duel. Though usually gentle, they are then terribly excited.

The Drones. These are gentlemen of leisure and ease—lazy ones too—but like other gentlemen of nothing to do, they often make a great noise. They rise late—say at 10 in the morning, and they retire by 3 or 4 in the afternoon. The theory of the drone is uncertain in some respects; but drones are doubtless the males of the hive. Why so many when there is but one female, the lecturer did not know. The drones are from 500 to 2000 in a hive. By October they are all killed. None are hatched out before May of the next season. And yet the queen's eggs of March and April have been fertile. Probably impregnation is made while on the wing, and answers for the following year.

The drones are cowards, and without stings. It is 24 days from the laying of the eggs before the drones are perfect. In August and September, they are all killed; and this is done not by stinging, but by tearing them in two. This murder is always committed if the hive be healthy; but if unhealthy, they are allowed to live. It is therefore a good indication to see this butchery commence.

The Busy Workers. These are barren females. They are smaller than the drones, and have long stings. When they use the sting in earnest, they generally leave the sting behind and die. These are perfected in 21 days from the laying of the egg. Their numbers in a good hive are from 20,000 to 50,000. When about to sting, they utter a sharp cry and emit a strong odor.

The bee laps its food like a dog or cat. While feeding at the flower, it puts the honey into its *honey stomach*, but loads its thighs, especially in spring, with farina from the flowers. These workers perform all the labor; they gather the honey and stow it away; they keep guard, and they nurse the young.

The ventilators have the hardest work. Stationed near the mouth of the hive, they, by a fanning motion of the wings, keep up a circulation of air. At this work, they seem to be relieved in about 25 or 30 minutes.

If it be necessary, bees will roam four miles in search of food; but this is not often needful. Of the farina of flowers, they gather and bring to the hive much more than is necessary. This is the only thing in which they seem to lack wisdom.

The wax and comb is a secretion from the bees. When wax is wanted, several bees fill their stomachs with honey, and then they hang together, and the wax is secreted from their sides.

The cells in the honey-comb are not horizontal, but the mouth is the lowest part—the angle of inclination is about 5 deg.

Swarming. Between November and April, three-fourths of the bees usually die—but the queen's fertility can make good the loss in spring. After the spring broods come out, the old queen, with some old bees and many young ones, rush out and swarm, if they have not room and air. It is the want of these that leads to swarming.

The queen is in the centre or near the centre of the swarm. When you have hived the swarm, protect the hive from the sun. As to the best mode of hiving, no general rule can be given: this must vary according to circumstances—and experience must tell which is the best way for each particular case. At the time of swarming, the bees are not inclined to sting; if treated gently, they seldom harm any one.

The noises made formerly with shovel and tongs and warming pans, might be useful in calling neighbors to one's assistance; but as a means of detaining or quieting the swarm, it is all arrant nonsense.

Instinct—or a propensity to perform certain acts, in the same unvarying manner, is strong and remarkable in the bee. But in addition to this, we see something like reason—not human reason—but yet a kind of reason. A snail, that found its way into the hive, was glued down, and wax was put around the edges of the shell, so that no offensive effluvia might pass off—but the shell itself was not waxed over. When the *slug* entered, he was stung to death and waxed all over.

A piece of honey-comb was laid upon a plate. The honey was taken from the upper side; then five little pillars of wax were built in some way, on the under side, and the comb was raised up so that the honey could be obtained from the under side also. These things show a kind of reason.

(The lecture was beautifully written, and embellished with many appropriate poetical extracts. A skeleton report shows none of its beauties, and but little of its worth.)

The same subject to be continued at the next meeting.

Errata.—We regret the occurrence of several typographical errors in Mr Phinney's Report on Premium Farms, published in our paper of the 1st inst. On page 275, last column, 6th line of the 3d paragraph, "*new* year's use," should have read, *next* year's use. On page 276, 1st column, 7th line from the top, the word "haunts" should have been *habits;* and in the 9th line, "prosperity" should have been *propensity*

THE FARMER'S ENCYCLOPEDIA AND DICTIONARY OF RURAL AFFAIRS. By C. W. Johnson, Esq. Adapted to the United States by a Practical Farmer, with Engravings. Philadelphia: Carey & Hart. Semi-monthly, in numbers: to contain 16 Nos. and cost 25 cts. each.

A specimen number of this work has been sent to us. The frontispiece is a lithograph of the Durham Short-horn cow, in three different positions; the dictionary as far down as alkali is given. The reputation of the author in England, and the character of his Treatise on Fertilizers, from which we have extracted much for our paper in times past, lead us to expect that this will be a valuable work.

Appearance.—I became poor, and my apparel soon evinced it. I was universally shunned: I passed through the streets as through a desert. I had three old hats—I gave them all for one new one, put it on and went out: I was accosted by dozens. My wife contrived to get up one tolerable coat out of two old ones;—I put that on also, and went out;—every one now recognized me, and I was shaken hands with at every corner.

Those that unfortunately have more brains than bank notes, can apply the moral.—*Portland Bulletin.*

THERMOMETRICAL

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Gardenof the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, for the week ending March 12.

March, 1843.	7,A.M.	12, M.	5,P.M.	Wind.
Monday, 6	14	20	24	N. W.
Tuesday, 7	14	22	22	N. W.
Wednesday, 8	12	30	35	N. W.
Thursday, 9	22	44	36	N. E.
Friday, 10	22	42	32	N. E.
Saturday, 11	34	38	44	N.
Sunday, 12	26	44	38	N.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, March 13, 1843.

Reported for the N. E. Farmer.

At Market 475 Beef Cattle, 600 Sheep, and 290 Swine. 120 Beef Cattle and 200 Sheep unsold.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle*—We quote to correspond with last week, viz: extra, $4.83 a $5.00. First quality, $4.50 a 4.75. Second quality, $4.00 a 4.25. Third quality, $3.50 a 3.75.

Sheep.—We noticed lots sold from $1.50, to 4 75.

Swine.—Sales were made of lots to peddle at 3 5-8 a 3 3-4 for sows, and 4 5-8 a 4 3-4 for barrows. At retail from 4 to 5 1-2.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, $2 25 to 2 50 per bushel. Red Top, 40 to 50 cents. Clover—Northern, 10 to 11c.—Southern, 8 a 9 c. Flax Seed, $1 75 per bushel. Lucerne, 30 c. per lb. Canary Seed, $3 50 per bushel.

GRAIN. Duty, Corn, Rye and Beans, free; Barley 20 per cent.; Oats 20 per cent.

Since our last about 20 a 30,000 bushels Corn have arrived a large portion of which remains unsold. Prices have experienced but little variation.

Corn—Northern, old, bushel 55 to 00—Southern, round yellow, old, 00 a 00—Southern flat yellow, new, 51 a 52—do. do. white 00 a 49 —do New Orleans, 45 a 50—Barley 00 a — —Rye, Northern, 58 a 60—do. Southern, 00 a 55—Oats, Southern, 29 a 31—Northern do. 31 to 32—Beans, per bushel 1 00 a 1 62.—Shorts, per double bush. — a —Bran, — a—.

FLOUR. The demand has been very moderate throughout the week, without producing any change on previous reported prices.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. $4 25 a 0 00 —do. wharf, $0 00 a 4 12 do. free of garlic, $0 00 a 4 25 —Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $4 12½ a 0 00 —Fredericksburg, low l'd 4 mos. $4 12½ a 0 00—Alexandria, wharf mountain, 4 12 a 0 00 —Georgetown, $4 25 a 4 37—Richmond Canal, $0 00 a 4 25 —do. City, $0 00 a 0 00—Petersburgh, South side $0 00 a 0 00 —do. Country $0 00 a 0 00—Genesee, common, cash, $4 75 a 4 81— do fancy brands $4 87 a 5 25 — Ohio via Canal, $0 00 a 0 00—do do New Orleans, cash $4 25 a 4 50. Rye, $0 00 a 0 00—Indian Meal in bbls. $2 87 a 3 00.

PROVISIONS.—Sales steady and former quotations continued.

Beef—Mess 4 no. new bbl. $7 75 a 8 00—Navy—$7 00 a 7 50.—No. 1, 6 00 a 6 25—do Prime $4 25 a 4 50—Pork—Extra clear 4 mo. bbl. $11 00 a 00 00—do Clear $10 00 a 10 50 do. Mess, 8 25 a 8 50—do Prime $6 00 a 6 50—do Mess from other States,— a — —do Prime do do $0 00 a 0 00 do. Cargo do. 0 a 0 00— —Clear do do $00 00 a 00 00— Butter, shipping, 9 a 11—do store, uninspected, 9 a 14—do dairy, 15 a 17,—Lard, No. 1, Boston ins. 6 a 6½ — do South and Western, 6 — a 6½ —. Hams, Boston, 7 a 0 — Southern and Western, 0 a 0—Cheese, Ship'g and 4 meal, 3 a 5—do new milk, 5 a 7.

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 7 cts. per pound, free. All whereof the value exceeds 7 cts. per pound, 30 per ct. ad. val. and 3 cts per pound.

There has been no important change in the article since our last review.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 35 a 37 c.—American full blood, do 32 a 33—Do 3-4 do 22 a 00—Do. 1-2 do 28 a 30 -1-4 and common do 25 a 27 — Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 a 23— Do. unwashed, 10 a 13—Bengasi do 8 a 10—Saxony, clean, 00—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10—do. do. picked, 12 a 16—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 26 a 30—No. 1 do. do. do. 23 a 25—No. 2 do do do 15 a 20—No. 3 do do do 12 a 15.

HOPS. Duty 20 per cent.

1st sort Mass. 1842, lb. 10 a 12. 2d do. do. do. 0 a 0.

HAY, per ton—Eastern Screwed $10 to 12.

CHEESE—Shipping and 4 meal, 6 to 8c.—New 9 to 11.

EGGS, 16 a 18.

BUCKTHORNS FOR HEDGES.

10,000 Buckthorn plants, averaging about one foot in height. Also, Pear Trees, standard and dwarf, of the new and fine varieties, for sale by JOHN C. LEE, at his Nursery, in Dearborn street, North Salem. 6w. March 15.

10 000 ORANGE AND PORTUGAL QUINCES

At Prince's Linnaen Garden and Nurseries.

Theee two varieties produce the largest and best flavored fruit that is found in our markets and which have sold at $3 per hundred in the New York markets for several years past. The climate of New England seems the best suited to produce the finest fruit and most abundant crops.

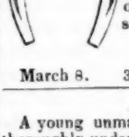
Having devoted much attention to their culture, we now offer beautiful thrifty trees at very reduced rates by the hundred or thousand, for the formation of orchards. Prices for the different sizes will be sent to all post paid applications.

WM. R. PRINCE & CO.

N. B. An immense stock of Ornamental Trees of the various kinds, will be supplied to Nurseries in quantity at low rates,—a Catalogue of which will be sent on application.

Flushing, March 8, 1843. 2w

BURDEN'S IMPROVED PATENT HORSE SHOES,



At about as low a price as the *same quality of Horse Shoe IRON can be purchased in the City*

These Shoes are warranted of a superior quality of Iron and workmanship to any ever offered in market, and their failing to prove so, the money will be refunded.

For sale by

CHARLES SMITH,

March 8. 3m 42 *India street.*

WANTED,

A young unmarried man, (either English or Scotch) who thoroughly understands the duties of a Green House and Hot House; Forcing in all its branches; Landscape Gardening, and Nursery business, in its various departments.

The best of testimonials will be required, and none need apply that cannot produce them, and who wishes a situation for one to three years. March 8.

SCIONS! SCIONS!

The subscriber is now enabled to supply Scions of the very best varieties of *Pear, Apple, Plum,* and *Cherry.*

Having a very large number of specimen Fruit Trees in his Gardens, from which fruits have been gathered, is a surety that the Scions can be relied on as *genuine.*

Communications upon the subject relative to the varieties and qualities, or to quantity and price, directed to the subscriber will be promptly responded to and orders executed with dispatch.

Large quantities will be furnished at reduced rates.

JAMES L. L. F. WARREN.

Nonantum Vale, Brighton, Feb. 13th, 1843.

WANTED,

A man and his wife to take charge of a Farm near Boston. Those without children would be preferred. Apply at this office. Feb. 22.

POUDRETTE AS A MANURE.

This valuable fertilizer has been extensively used during the past five years in the vicinity of New York. One farmer on Long Island has used more than 3500 bushels, another over 1900 bushels and several others more than a 1000 bushels each, with entire success, manufactured by the *New York Poudrette Company.* The subscriber was the first American who undertook the business in this country, and he has manufactured it in *larger* quantities than any, probably than *all,* others who have attempted the manufacture. Of the *quality* he leaves others, who use it, to judge—relying upon his experience and knowledge of the business, and his *interest* in furnishing a good article for customers.

☞ Present price $1 50 per barrel for ten or more barrels, or $5 for three barrels delivered on board of vessel. Orders by mail, enclosing the cash, promptly attended to, and pamphlets with *directions* sent to those who desire them, on applying to D. K. MINOR, agent 118 Nassau st., New York.

Feb. 15. 6w

WANTS A SITUATION AS GARDENER.

A young man who has served his apprenticeship in Europe, who understands Nursery, Flower, and kitchen Gardening and forcing in all its various branches, and who has had four years experience in this country, wishes a situation in any private or public establishment. Can furnish the best reference.

A line addressed to J. S. at this office, will command immediate attention. Feb. 15.

POUDRETTE! POUDRETTE!!

The subscribers keep constantly on hand, and for sale, Poudrette in quantities to suit purchasers; packed in Barrels in order for shipping, or transportation by wagon or Rail Road.

The experience of five years past has satisfied many farmers, that this manure has the quickest operation upon vegetable matter, producing greater abundance, and is the cheapest manure they have ever tried.

Orders left at the New England Seed Store, and at the factory in Brookline, will meet with prompt attention.

For sale by J.BRECK & CO, 51 and 52 North Market st., Boston. Oct. 26.

GRINDSTONES ON FRICTION ROLLERS.

Grindstones of different sizes, hung on friction rollers and moved with a foot treader, is found to be a great improvement on the old mode of hanging grindstones. Stones hung in this manner are becoming daily more in use, and wherever used, give universal satisfaction. The rollers can be attached to stones hung in the common way. For sale by J. BRECK & Co., No. 51 North Market street.

SILK BUSINESS.

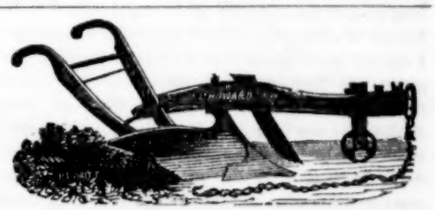
Silk Worm Eggs, Pea nuts, and Sulphurs, at $3 50 per ounce.

Mulberry Trees. Cantons and Multicaulis at $60 per thousand delivered in Boston, by J. R. BARBOUR.

Oxford, Jan. 25, 1843. } Feb. 1.
Near Depot on N. and W. R. Road. }

WANTS A SITUATION AS GARDENER.

An experienced gardener, well acquainted with the various branches of the business, and who can procure satisfactory, testimonial, both from his late employer and the most celebrated and practical gardeners in this part of the country, wants a situation. Address D. C., at the office of the N. E. Farmer. Boston, Feb. 1, 1843.



HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over, turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has been very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard orrocky,* BEGIN WITH MR. HOWARD'S."

At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twentyseven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twentynine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside: this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough, sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

April 20

MUCK MANUAL.

For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., The Muck Manual for Farmers. By Dr S. L. Dana; price $1.

Boston, April 13.

LACTOMETERS—a simple instrument for testing the quality of milk. For sale by J. BRECK & CO.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Washington and the Quaker.—I cannot forbear quoting from the life of Washington, a characteristic incident. The battle of Germantown was fought on the day of the yearly meeting of the Quakers in Philadelphia; and, during the battle, they were engaged in praying for divine protection to the people, and in preparing to renew their testimony against war. While James Thornton was writing this testimony, the cannon shook the house where they were assembled, and the air was darkened by the smoke of guns. Warner Mifflin undertook the service of carrying the testimony to the opposing generals, Washington and Howe—and, in discharging this duty, he was obliged to walk in blood, and among the dead bodies of those who had fallen in battle. He performed it, however, with great freedom, and in conversation with Washington, said expressly, "I am opposed to the revolution, and to all changes of government which occasion war and bloodshed."

After Washington was chosen President of the United States, Mifflin went to visit him at New York, and was received with marked respect and kindness. Recollecting what Mifflin had said to him at Germantown, the President asked, "Will you please, Mr Mifflin inform me on what principles you were opposed to the revolution?" "Yes, friend Washington—upon the same principles that I should now opposed to a change in this government; all that ever was gained by revolutions, is not an adequate compensation to the poor, mangled soldier for the loss of life or limb." Washington, after a long pause, replied with much emphasis, "Mr Mifflin, I honor your sentiments;—*there is more in them than mankind have generally considered.*"—*Selected.*

A Noble Boy.—About a fortnight since, as two lads, one aged thirteen, and the other eleven, sons of Edward Godfrey, of West Point, were skating upon the Hudson, the eldest, in passing over a place where the ice was thin, broke through and sunk. He rose to the surface, and struggled with the ice, which broke with him for two or three rods. As soon as the younger lad, who had glided a distance down the river, saw the condition his brother was in, he hastened to his rescue, and with much presence of mind called out, "Do n't be afraid, Bub, I 'll get you out." He skated as near as it was prudent to do, then stripping off his little overcoat, and taking it by the end of the sleeve, he lay down upon the ice, and swung it out to his brother, who caught hold of it and was drawn safely out.

Young as the lad is, he has saved two boys from a watery grave—one about a year since. Such acts of coolness, courage, and brotherly kindness, should not go unnoticed. If any son of one of "nature's noblemen" merits a place in the West Point Academy, this same little Joseph Godfrey is entitled to it.—*N. Y. Jour. of Com.*

Why is the letter S like dinner? Because it comes before *tea.*

Why is an eye like a criminal at the whipping post? Because it is under the *lash.*

Why is a nail strong in a wall, like a feeble old man? Because it is *in firm.*

What an Old Newspaper did.—A North Carolina paper tells us that above five months ago, a young man named Grimsley, came into Wayne county, N. C., where he formerly lived, having been absent several years. Soon after his return, he engaged himself to a Miss Martin, and the day was fixed for their marriage. Some three or four days previous, while cutting a Mississippi newspaper, about two years old, for lining to her wedding bonnet, she noticed a proclamation of the Governor of Mississippi, offering a reward for two men charged with murder, one named Grimsley, and precisely agreeing in personal description with her lover. She immediately carried it to her brother, who called on Grimsley for information. He, after denying every thing, said he could prove his innocence in Greene county, N. C., was obliged to go with the brother to the places named, but nobody could be found who knew him. He was then arrested and confined in jail, where he confessed he was present when the murder was committed in Mississippi, but denied having any part in it.

Living without Drink.—The last Boston Medical and Surgical Journal contains a communication from Dr. Wm. A. Alcott, in which he states that he *drank nothing* during the whole of the year 1842, and in fact, that he has not yet returned to the use of drink. With one exception, he has suffered less than formerly from thirst. This exception was in July, when, in order to make a fair experiment, he worked hard at haying. The first day or two, it being very hot weather, he felt a return of thirst, which he allayed by gurgling his throat with cold water, and eating bread crumbled in water. After two days he felt no more thirst, though he worked hard. The object of the experiment was to prove, for the benefit of the friends of temperance, that if our food is simple and plain we need but very little drink. His diet was bread, fruits, and succulent vegetables.

To Stop a Fit of Coughing.—A correspondent of the London Medical Gazette, states that to close the nostrils with the thumb and finger during breathing *out*, and leaving them free during breathing *in*, will relieve a fit of coughing in a short time.

In addition to the above, we can state from personal knowledge, that to press the finger on the upper lip, just below the nose, will make the severest premonitory symptoms of a *sneeze* pass off harmless. We have found the remedy useful many a time.—*Exchange pap.*

Look out for Punctuation.—The editor of a newspaper thus introduces some verses: "The poem published this week was composed by an esteemed friend *who has lain in the grave many years for his own amusement.*"

Politeness.—It is related of a former Governor of Virginia, that, walking one day in the streets of Williamsburg, he was met by a negro, a slave, who raised his hat in token of respect, when the Governor passed. His Excellency returned the salutation in the same manner. A friend who accompanied him, expressed some surprise at his condescension. "I should be very sorry," he replied, "to see myself surpassed in politeness by a slave."

GREEN'S PATENT STRAW CUTTER.

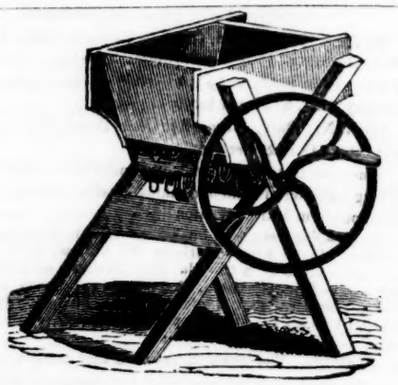
JOSEPH BRECK & CO. at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street, have for sale, Green's Patent Straw, Hay and Stalk Cutter, operating on a mechanical principle not before applied to any implement for this purpose. The most prominent effects of this application, and some of the consequent peculiarities of the machine are:

1. So great a reduction of the quantum of power requisite to use it, that the strength of a half grown boy is sufficient to work it efficiently.

2. With even this moderate power, it easily cuts two bushels a minute, which is full twice as fast as has been claimed by any other machine even when worked by horse or steam power.

3. The knives, owing to the peculiar manner in which they cut, require sharpening less often than those of any other straw cutter.

4. The machine is simple in its construction, made and put together very strongly. It is therefore not so liable as the complicated machines in general use to get out of order.



WILLIS'S LATEST IMPROVED VEGETABLE CUTTER.

This machine surpasses all others for the purpose of cutting Ruta Baga. Mangel Wurtzel, and other roots. The great objection to other machines, is their cutting the roots into slices, which makes it almost impossible for the cattle to get hold of them: this machine with a little alteration, cuts them into large or small pieces, of such shape as is most convenient for the cattle to eat. It will cut with ease from one to two bushels of roots per minute. For sale by J. BRECK & CO., Nos. 51 and 52 North Market st.

TYE UP CHAINS.

Just received by 500 Chains for tyeing up Cattle.

These chains, introduced by E. H. Derby, Esq. of Salem, and Col. Jacobs, for the purpose of securing cattle to the stall, are found to be the safest and most convenient mode of fastening cows and oxen to the stanchion.

For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., No. 52 North Market st.

DRAFT AND TRACE CHAINS.

400 pair Trace Chains, suitable for Ploughing.
200 " Truck and leading Chains.
200 " Draft Chains. For sale by J. BRECK & CO., No. 52 North Market st.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance*, or $2 50 if not paid within thirty days.

N. B.—Postmasters are permitted by law to frank all subscriptions and remittances for newspapers, without expense to subscribers.

TUTTLE AND DENNETT, PRINTERS.